बीड़ी कर्मकारों की दशा

7406. **मौलाना अबदुल्ला खान आजमी :** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दक्षिण भारत के बीड़ी कर्मकारों की दशा उत्तर भारत के बीड़ी कर्मकारों से अच्छी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन अर्थों में उनकी दशा अच्छी है ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि पूरे देश में बीड़ी उद्योगों में एक समान बीड़ी मजदूरी का नहीं होना गंभीर समस्या बनी हुई है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में क्या उपाय किये गये हैं ; और

(ङ) बीड़ी कर्मकारों को और अधिक जागरूक बनाने, उन्हें संगठित करने और कल्याण योजनाओं का लाभ उन तक सुनिश्चित करने के लिये क्या कदम उठाय जा रहे हैं ?

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पवन सिंह घटोवार) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) उत्तर भारत की अपेक्षा दक्षिण भारत के बीडी कर्मकारों की दशायें निम्नलिखित क्षेत्रों में काफी अच्छी है :—

(i) आवास सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था,

(ii) चिकित्सा सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था,

(iii) कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत शामिल करना,

(ग) जी, हां ।

(घ) पूरे देश में मजदूरी को समान दर न तो व्यवहार्य है और ना ही वांछनीय, 11 श्रम मंत्रियों की समिति की सिफारिशों के आधार पर सदृश राज्यों में क्षेत्रीय न्यूनतम मजदूरी का निर्धारण संबंधी मामला विचाराधीन है ।

(ङ) सरकार द्वारा कर्मकार शिक्षा कैम्पों इत्यादि की व्यवस्था के अलावा समाचार पत्रों, आकाशवाणी, दूरदर्शन तथा अन्य माध्यमों के जरिये प्रचार द्वारा बीड़ी कर्मकारों में अधिक जागरूकता उत्पन्न करने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं ।

Dresses for Labourers

7407. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether labourers will be provided with dresses suitable to wear while in service and when in retirement;

(b) what is the total number of unorganised labour in this country State-wise; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to bring them under organised labour community ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) :
(a) Presently, there is no such provision under the Central Labour Laws.

(b) Workers are enumerated in the Census by the sector of activity in which they are engaged e.g. agriculture and allied occupations, mining and quarrying, manufacturing, construction, services etc. Since there exists no definitional clarity about the terms "organised" labour and "unorganised" labour, it is not possible to classify accurately the number of unorganised labour in rural and urban areas.

(c) A large number of existing labour laws are applicable to unorganised labour. The Government -are

also considering bringing forward Central Legislations for the welfare of Construction Workers and Agricultural Workers who constitute the largest segment of the unorganised labour force in the country. Efforts have also been made to organise the Rural Workers of the various States of the country so that the benefits of various legislatives and welfare measures reach them. One of such step was to launch a Centrally sponsored scheme to organise *the* Rural Workers. It was introduced in the Vlth Plan to educate rural workers regarding their rights and duties, motivate them for organising themselves in the shape of trade unions and to educate rural workers about Co-operatives, plans and programmes of the Government etc., to give them knowledge about labour laws, to assist workers education scheme *etc.* With the end of Seventh Plan the Scheme was dovetailed in the Scheme for the beneficiaries of Anti-Poverty Programme of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Agricultural Labourers in the Country

7408. SHRI BHAGABAN MA-JHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise number of agricultural labourers in the country;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to ensure the minimum wages to those labourers;

(c) if so, the rate at which wages are being paid to the Agricultural workers in different States; and (d) the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR):
(a) A table indicating state-wise agricultural labourers in the country is enclosed as statement *(See* below).

(b) to (d) According to the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum wages for scheduled employments under their respective jurisdiction. In so far as the agricultural sector is concerned, the Central Government is the appropriate Government for fixation/revision of minimum wages to a limited extent, only in respect of agricultural farms under different central Ministries. The State Governments are the appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum wages for most of the agricultural workers, other than those covered under the Central Sphere. A statement-II indicating available information on minimum rates of wages as fixed by various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for the lowest paid unskilled category of Agricultural workers is enclosed (See below). The appropriate Governments have constituted Enforcement Machinery which conducts regular inspections for ensuring payment of minimum wages.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the States/Union Territories	No. of Agricultural Workers (in thousands)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	11625
2	Assam	845
3	Bihar	9513